

WRIT OFFICE (IRELAND).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 29 June 1875—*for*,

COPIES "of all CORRESPONDENCE between the Treasury and the Irish Government, and the Lords Chief Justices and Chief Baron, the Master of the Court of Exchequer, and the Officers of the Consolidated Writ Office in *Ireland*, with regard to the Appointment to Vacancies in that Office since October last:"

"Of the WARRANT appointing Mr. *Tesling*, Clerk of Writs, dated the 26th day of October 1875:"

"And, of the APPOINTMENTS of the Second Assistant in the Writ Office to be First Assistant, of the Junior Clerk to be Second Assistant, and of Mr. *D. R. Pigot*, junior, to be Junior Clerk in his stead."

Treasury Chambers, }
7 July 1876. }

W. H. SMITH.

— No. 1. —

LETTER from the Treasury to the Chief Secretary for *Ireland*.

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 7 May 1875.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request that you will draw the attention of his Grace the Lord Lieutenant to the vacancy in the office of Clerk of the Writs, caused by the death of Mr. McDougall.

Pending the inquiries which have been begun into the Administrative Departments of the courts of law and equity in the United Kingdom, but which have not yet been extended to *Ireland*, their Lordships desire to suggest that so far as is possible, it is very desirable not to fill up any situation which may fall vacant or to create new interests.

Their Lordships would be glad to hear what course his Grace proposes to pursue with regard to this vacancy, the appointment to which appears to be vested in the Lord Lieutenant.

Their Lordships feel assured that they may rely upon his Grace to protect the public interest by keeping open the means of reduction of superfluous offices in every way that the law and the state of public business permits. Should it be considered absolutely necessary to fill up the appointment, my Lords would refer to Sir T. Lacombe's letter of 26th March 1854, which sets forth the terms on which the appointment of Mr. McDougall was then made, and they would suggest that a similar understanding might be required from any person now appointed successor to that gentleman, and that he should understand that he has no claim to compensation in the event of the abolition of the office. My Lords also question whether, on a fresh appointment, it is necessary to retain the salary at so high an amount as 800 *l*.

I am, &c.

(signed) *W. Law.*

The Chief Secretary for *Ireland*.

— No. 2. —

LETTER from the Chief Secretary for Ireland to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, 26 October 1875.

WITH reference to your letter of the 7th May last, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that it is found necessary (in consequence of its being a statutory office), 13 Vict. c. 18, sect. 32, and 17 & 18 Vict. c. 94, to fill up temporarily the office of the Clerk of the Writs, Appearance, and Seal, vacant by the death of Mr. McDougall, by the appointment of Mr. Teeling, the present first assistant in the office.

Enclosed is a copy of Mr. Teeling's letter to the Lord Chancellor, and I am to state that his Grace does not recommend that the actual salary of 800*l.* per annum should be allowed to Mr. Teeling, but that their Lordships should make him an allowance of 300*l.* a year during his tenure of the office (which will be abolished by the proposed Judicature Act), on the conditions stated in his letter to the Lord Chancellor.

I am, &c.

The Secretary, Treasury,
London.

(signed) *M. E. Hicks Beach.*

Enclosure in No. 2.

My Lord,

I HAVE had an opportunity afforded to me of reading so much of the Report of Messrs. Murray and Armstrong to your Lordship, in relation to the Consolidated Writ and Seal Office as refers to my being temporarily appointed clerk to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. William McDougall, and in the absence from this country of the Lord Chief Justice, I have respectfully to ask your Lordship that I may be appointed to the vacancy on the terms, and subject to the conditions of Messrs. Murray and Armstrong's Report, viz.: That I shall undertake the duties in consideration of being allowed the salary attached to the office, from the time of Mr. McDougall's death, in substitution for the salary to which I am entitled as first assistant, with the condition that I shall be subject to whatever changes the proposed Judicature legislation may impose; and further that I shall not claim from the date of such change, either in respect of future employment, allowance, or superannuation, in respect of salary in excess of that to which I am now entitled as first assistant.

To the Right Honorable,
The Lord Chancellor of Ireland,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Teeling.*

— No. 3. —

COPY OF WARRANT appointing Mr. Teeling, Clerk of Writs &c.

By the Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland,
Alercom.

By virtue of the authority given to us by an Act passed in the 13th year of the reign of Her present Majesty, c. 18, we do hereby nominate and appoint John Teeling, Esq., to be Clerk of the Writs, Appearance, and Seal of Her Majesty's Courts of Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer in Ireland, in the place and stead of W. McDougall, Esq., deceased.

John Teeling Esq., to the
Clerk of the Writs, Appearance,
and Seal, Court of
Queen's Bench, &c.

Given at Her Majesty's Castle of Dublin,
this 26th day of October 1875.

By his Grace's command.

(signed) *M. Hicks Beach.*

— No. 5. —

LETTER from the Treasury to the Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 3 November 1875.

IN reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request that you will inform his Grace the Lord Lieutenant that they are pleased to approve of the payment of an allowance of 300 *l.* a year to Mr. Teeling in addition to his present salary of 500 *l.* a year, so long as he holds the office of Clerk of the Writs, Appeals, and Seal, vacant by the death of Mr. McDougall, and which it has been found necessary, in consequence of its being a statutable office, to fill up temporarily pending future legislation.

In signifying this approval, I am to state that it is made subject to the conditions specified in Mr. Teeling's letter to the Lord Chancellor for Ireland, an extract from which was enclosed in your letter now under reply.

I am, &c.

(signed) C. W. Strang.

The Chief Secretary for Ireland.

— No. 6. —

CIRCULAR LETTER from the Treasury, addressed respectively to the Lord Chief Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench and Court of Common Pleas, and the Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, Ireland.

My Lord,

Treasury Chambers, 19 November 1875.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to state that the attention of this Board has been drawn to the vacancy alleged to exist in the Consolidated Writs Office by the temporary appointment of Mr. Teeling to perform the duties of the clerkship of the Consolidated Writ Office vacant by the death of Mr. McDougall.

My Lords understand that under the impression that a vacancy will arise in the office by the promotion of the two officers junior to Mr. Teeling, it is the intention of the Masters to appoint as junior clerk, a son of Master Pigot.

My Lords have to observe that it was in the power of the Irish Government to have so filled the vacant office that no promotion would have been open to the subordinates, and consequently that no vacancy would have been open at the bottom of the office.

Looking to the intention to abolish the office under the Judicature Act of next Session, the Irish Government has forborne from exercising its full statutable rights, and has endeavoured to provide for the temporary requirements of the law without adding to the public expenditure.

My Lords trust that the judges will be able to co-operate with the Executive Government in this reduction of expenditure, and that they will discountenance the plea that the arrangement made with Mr. Teeling vacates the latter's place. Mr. Teeling continues to discharge his own duties as assistant Clerk of Writs, and retains his own salary of 500 *l.* per annum, but at the same time he is appointed to act as Clerk of Writs, and is to receive an acting allowance of 300 *l.* per annum as long as he discharges that duty in addition to his own.

A copy of the Report recently made on this office to the Lord Chancellor by Mr. Murray and Mr. Armstrong, has been before this Board. My Lords have to observe that the amount of work in the office is so slight, that the appointment of a junior clerk cannot be defended as necessary, and that, if a new appointment is made, it will not only be open to this general objection, but also to the special objection that it has been made and accepted with full notice of coming changes.

changes. Under such circumstances, my Lords would not feel at liberty to agree to propose to Parliament that, on abolition of the office, the holder of it should be compensated for his loss.

The Lord Chief Justice,
Court of Queen's Bench.

I am, &c.
(signed) R. R. W. Lingen.

— No. 6. —

LETTER from Lord Chief Justice of Ireland to the Treasury.

25 November 1875.

Chamber, Queen's Bench, Dublin.

THE Chief Justice of Ireland has to acknowledge the communication from the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury touching the vacancy in the Writs Office consequent on the appointment of Mr. Teeling to the office of Clerk of Writs in Ireland.

The Chief Justice has to acquaint their Lordships, that formerly the office of Clerk of Writs to the three Law Courts was in the gift, and the office itself under the control, of the three Chief Justices; but by Section 33 of 13 Vict. c. 18, the Judges were stripped of all power to appoint the Clerk of Writs, and the same section is so adroitly framed as to exclude the Judges from exercising any control over the appointment of any of the subordinates in the office from the passing of the Statute, which was cleverly drawn in order to divide the patronage between the Castle and the Masters, and oust the Chief Justices and Chief Baron from the control they ever should possess over the officers of their Courts. The Chief Justices and Chief Baron knew nothing of the appointment of Mr. Teeling; of course they were not consulted as to the necessity or expediency of the appointment under existing circumstances. At the request of the authorities they summoned Mr. Teeling, his subordinates, and the three Masters, to meet in the Chamber of the Chief Justice. Mr. Teeling then produced his appointment, absolute in the face of it, and in exact accordance with the statute. No evidence was given of any arrangement to qualify (if it could) the absolute appointment. Upon inquiry by the Judges they were satisfied Messrs. Bushe and Burke were efficient and capable as clerks, and so they were entitled to their promotion under the statute. The Chief Justice then read the communication addressed to him from the Castle and Treasury, and expressed his decided opinion that the vacancy in the junior clerkship should not be filled; in this the Master of the Queen's Bench agreed, and so the matter ended.

— No. 7. —

LETTER from the Irish Office to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, 3 December 1875.

REFERRING to former correspondence on the subject, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a communication which has been received from the Lord Chief Justice of Ireland and the Lord Chief Baron, relative to recent appointments in the Consolidated Writs Office, and to request that you will lay the same before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

V. H. Smith, Esq., M.P., Treasury.

I am, &c.
(signed) T. H. Burke.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Queen's Bench.

THE Chief Justice and the Chief Baron have the honour to acquaint Sir Michael Hicks Beach that, in consequence of the communications addressed to them relative to the appointment in the Consolidated Writ Office, under the 33rd section of 13 Vict. c. 18, they, after conference with the Lord Chancellor, summoned before them Mr. Teeling, the two clerks in the Writ Office, Mr. Bushe and Mr. Burke, and the three Masters of the three Courts of Common Law.

The Chief Justice and Chief Baron, with the statute 13 Vict. before them, required Mr. Teeling to produce his appointment, if any, to the office of Clerk of the Writs in Ireland. Mr. Teeling at once produced his appointment, which being examined and compared with the 33rd section of the 13th Victoria, appeared to the Chief Justice and Chief Baron to be perfectly formal and complete, and unaffected by any condition. No evidence was offered to impair or qualify this nomination, nor to show it was any other than the thing it appeared on the face of it to be. The Chief Justice and Chief Baron were therefore obliged to decide that Mr. Teeling was regularly appointed to fill the vacant office of Clerk of the Writs. Consequent on this promotion under the statute, the Masters handed in their appointment of Mr. Bushe and Mr. Burke to the vacancies caused by the removal and appointment of Mr. Teeling.

Inquiry was then made by the Chief Justice and Chief Baron of Mr. Teeling, as head of the office, as to the ability, fitness, and efficiency of Messrs. Burke and Bushe as clerks in the Writ Office.

The answers of Mr. Teeling were highly satisfactory on these points; whereupon the Chief Justice and Chief Baron considered they had no alternative but to sign and approve of the appointments as made under the statute by the Masters.

Touching the vacancy thus caused in the junior clerkship, the Masters are granted by the statute the exclusive right to fill the same; and in this matter the Chief Justice and Chief Baron are deprived of all power of interference or control. This has been deliberately done. However, the Chief Justice read out the communications addressed to him from the Castle and the Treasury, and declared it to be his opinion that, under the circumstances, the vacancy in the junior clerkship should not be filled.

The Master of the Court of Queen's Bench then stated that, having heard the expression of the Chief Justice's opinion, he would not agree to any appointment to fill the vacant clerkship, and so the meeting ended.

29 November 1875.

(signed)

James Whiteside, Chief Justice.
C. Pollex, Chief Baron.

— No. 8. —

LETTER from the Irish Office to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, 27 November 1875.

I AM directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the accompanying copy of a correspondence respecting changes in the Consolidated Writ and Seal Office, consequent on the promotion of John Teeling, now Clerk of the Writs, Appearances, and Seal.

The Secretary, Treasury, London.

I am, &c.

(signed) T. H. Burke.

Enclosure 1, in No. 8.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, 10 November 1875.

REVENING to the vacancy created by the appointment of Mr. John Teeling to the Office of Clerk of the Writs, Appearances, and Seal, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to state that in consequence of changes in the Writ Office contemplated by the Judicature Bill, it is desirable that no new interests should be created. His Grace, therefore, relies upon the assistance of your Lordship, and of the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and the Lord Chief Baron, so far as is consistent with the existing Act of Parliament in attaining this object, and his Grace would suggest that your Lordships would confer with the Lord Chancellor on the subject.

I am, &c.

(signed) M. E. Hicks Beach.

The Right Hon.
the Lord Chief Justice of Ireland.

Enclosure 2, in No. 8.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, 19 November 1875.

I AM directed to inform you that, from the information which the Government have received, they have reason to believe that a fourth officer (in the position of a junior clerk) is not required in the Law Writ Office; and that as it is their intention to propose legislation for the purpose of amalgamating the Law Writ Office with the same Office in Chancery, it is probable that the appointment of a fourth officer will very shortly become still more unnecessary than at present.

I have, therefore, to request that such appointment shall not be made, and to inform you that if it be made, the Government cannot consent to view such appointment as giving any claim to compensation upon the abolishing of the office by future legislation.

Hugh Lane, Esq.,
Master, Court of Queen's Bench.

I am, Sir,
(signed) *Al. E. Hicks Beach*

Similar letters to the Master, Court of Common Pleas, and the Master, Court of Exchequer.

Enclosure 3, in No. 8.

Sir,

Offices, Superior Courts of Common Law,
20 November 1875.

WE have the honour to inform you that the Lord Chief Justice and the Lord Chief Baron have this day approved of the selection and promotion of Mr. George Rushe from the office of second assistant to that of senior assistant, in the Consolidated Writ and Seal Office, in the place of John Teeling, Esq., now Clerk of the Writs, Appearance, and Seal; also of the selection and promotion of Mr. Grady James Burke, from the office of third assistant to that of second assistant in the said office, in the place of Mr. George Rushe.

We have further to inform you that, pursuant to the 33rd section of the 13 Vict. c. 18, we have nominated and appointed Mr. David Richard Pigot, jun., one of the salaried clerks in the Exchequer, to fill the office of junior clerk in said office, rendered vacant by the promotions referred to.

The Right Hon. the Chief Secretary.

We have, Sir,
(signed) *C. G. Burke*
David R. Pigot

Enclosure 4, in No. 8.

13 Victoria, c. 18.

IN pursuance of the 33rd section of the said Act, we, the Masters of the Superior Courts of Common Law in Ireland, do hereby select and appoint George Rushe, Esq. (now second assistant or clerk in the Consolidated Writs, Appearance, and Seal Office), to be senior assistant or clerk in the said office, in the place of John Teeling, Esq.

Dated this 8th November 1875.

(signed) *C. G. Burke*,
Master, Common Pleas.
David R. Pigot,
Master of the Exchequer.
Hugh Lane,
Master, Queen's Bench.

Approved,
James Fitzgibbon, Chief Justice.
C. Pilles, Chief Baron.

Enclosure 5, in No. 8.

13 Victoria, c. 18.

In pursuance of the 33rd section of the said Act, we, the Masters of the Superior Courts of Common Law in Ireland, do hereby select and appoint Granby Burke, Esq., M.A. (now junior clerk in the Consolidated Writ, Appearance, and Seal Office), to be second assistant or clerk in the said office, in the place of George Bush, Esq.

Dated this 20th November 1875.

(signed) *C. G. Burke,*
Master, Common Pleas.
David R. Pigot,
Master of the Exchequer.
Hugh Lane,
Master, Queen's Bench.

Approved,

James Whitwade, Chief Justice.
C. Peiler, Chief Baron.

Enclosure 6, in No. 8.

By virtue of an Act passed in the 13th year of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 18, we, being two of the Masters of the Superior Courts of Common Law in Ireland, do hereby appoint David Richard Pigot, jun., to be the junior clerk in the Consolidated Writ, Appearance, and Seal Office, in the place of Granby Burke, Esq.

Dated this 20th day of November 1875.

(signed) *C. G. Burke,*
Master of Common Pleas.
David R. Pigot,
Master of the Exchequer.

Enclosure 7, in No. 8.

Sir,

Exchequer Office, 20 November 1875.

I now acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., requesting that the appointment of a junior clerk in the Law Writ Office should not be made, and informing me that the Government cannot consent to view such appointment as giving any claim to compensation upon the abolition of the office by future legislation.

Your letter was obviously written under the impression that a discretion exists in the Masters of the Common Law Courts as to the appointment in question. If I were of that opinion I should without hesitation act in accordance with the suggestion of the Government; but neither the Master of the Common Pleas nor myself entertain any doubt that the provision of the Statute 13 Vict. c. 18, s. 33, is mandatory upon us, and that we had no discretion as to the filling up the vacancy. This we have accordingly done by the appointment of my son, David Richard Pigot, one of the selected writing clerks in the Court of Exchequer.

With respect to the question of compensation in the event of the future abolition of the office, I do not think it is one upon which I am called upon to express an opinion. My power and duty have determined on making this appointment, and I presume that the status and the rights of the person so appointed must in this, as in all other cases, be governed by the construction of the Acts of Parliament under which he holds, and by its sense.

The Right Hon. the Chief Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *David R. Pigot.*

Enclosure 8, in No. 8.

Common Pleas Office, Four Courts, Dublin,
20 November 1875.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your favour of the 19th inst., and regret to state that, having promised to appoint a fit person to the office of third assistant in the Law Writ Office, under the mandatory provision of the Statute (13 Vict. c. 18, s. 33), I have co-operated in making such an appointment.

The Right Hon. the Chief Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. J. Burke.*

Enclosure 9, in No. 8.

Queen's Bench Office, Dublin,
20 November 1875.

Sir,
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, and in reply, beg to state that for the reasons therein I will not join in any appointment of junior clerk in the Writ and Seal Office, and so stated to-day at a meeting of the Masters of the law courts with the Lord Chief Justice and Lord Chief Baron.

The Right Hon. the Chief Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Hayk Lam,*
Master, Queen's Bench.

— No. 9. —

LETTER from the Secretary to the Treasury to the Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 17 December 1875.

IN reply to your letter of the 3rd ultimo, respecting the promotions of Messrs. Bushe and Burke, and the appointment of Mr. David Pigot, junior, which have recently been made in the Consolidated Writ Office, I am directed by my Lords to request you to move his Grace the Lord Lieutenant to cause the Masters who have appointed Mr. David Pigot, junior, to the situation of third assistant, and Mr. David Pigot, junior, himself also, to be informed that they have decided not to make provision in the next Estimates for the payment of any salary to the holder of that situation, and that they have further decided to object to include the holder of it in any provision giving compensation for loss of office, which may form part of any Bill abolishing the said situation.

The Chief Secretary for Ireland.

I am, &c.
(signed) *R. R. W. Linges.*

— No. 10. —

LETTER from the Irish Office to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, 22 December 1875.

REFERRING to your letter of the 17th instant, (No. 18,496), I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to request that you will move the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to cause his Grace to be informed whether it is their Lordships' intention that the two clerks, Messrs. Bushe and Burke, of the Consolidated Writ Office, should be respectively paid at the rates of 500 l. and 400 l. as first and second assistants, from the date of their promotion, and also that Mr. David R. Pigot, jun., be paid at the rate of 250 l. a year, which is the salary provided for the third assistant, from the date of his appointment until the 31st March next inclusive.

His Grace requests to be favoured with an early intimation of the Lordships' instructions.

The Secretary, Treasury, London.

I am, &c.
(signed) *T. H. Burke.*

— No. 11. —

LETTER from the Treasury to the Under Secretary of State for Ireland.

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 24 December 1875.

IN reply to your letter of 22nd instant, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request that you will state to his Grace

Grace the Lord Lieutenant that my Lords do not consider they have any power to prevent Messrs. Bushe and Burke from being paid the salaries assigned to the offices of first and second assistant in the Consolidated Writ Office from the date of their promotion, nor for withholding from Mr. D. R. Pigot, junr., the salary assigned to the office of third assistant for the remainder of the present financial year.

The Under Secretary of State for Ireland.

I am, &c.
(signed) Wm. Law.

— No. 12. —

LETTER from the Irish Office to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, 4 January 1876.

REFERRING to your letter of the 24th ultimo (No. 19,563), I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit to you to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copy of a letter from Mr. D. R. Pigot, junr., relative to his appointment as junior clerk in the Consolidated Office of Writs.

The Secretary, Treasury.

I am, &c.
(signed) T. H. Burke.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Consolidated Writ Office, Four Courts,
23 December 1875.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, containing a communication from the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, declining to make provision in the next Estimates for the payment of my salary, and objecting to any provision for compensation in case of the abolition of the office which I hold.

I am advised that the office of junior clerk being held during good behaviour entitles its holder to the salary settled in pursuance of the "Process and Practice Act of 1850, until that right be destroyed by future legislation; and I therefore beg respectfully to remonstrate against the omission in the Estimates of the necessary provision for its payment.

As to the question of compensation, in the event of the abolition of my office, I trust that their Lordships will, on reconsideration, be of opinion that the objection ought not to be insisted on.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

I have, &c.
(signed) D. R. Pigot, Junr.

— No. 13. —

LETTER from the Treasury to the Under Secretary of State for Ireland.

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 12 January 1876.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant (19,690), and its Enclosure, and to acquaint you, for the information of his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, that my Lords have nothing to add to the decision relative to the situation held by Mr. D. R. Pigot in the Consolidated Office of Writs which was communicated to the Irish Government on the 17th ultimo.

The Under Secretary of State for Ireland.

I am, &c.
(signed) Wm. Law.

— No. 14. —

LETTER from the Chief Secretary for Ireland to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Irish Office, Great Queen-street, S.W.,

23 February 1876.

Sir,

I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, with reference to previous correspondence, the accompanying copies of a statement* and Enclosures on behalf of Mr. D. R. Pigot, junr., respecting the abolition of his appointment in the Law Writ Office in Ireland.

The papers in question have been forwarded merely with the view that their Lordships should have Master Pigot's statement before them; and I may add that his Grace has reason to believe that the Lord Chief Baron did not, as stated on page 7 of the pamphlet, "decline to concur with the view expressed by the Lord Chief Justice" on the subject; but that, considering he had no jurisdiction in the matter, his Lordship stated that he should not be taken as expressing any official opinion in reference to it, and confined himself to exercising the sole jurisdiction conferred upon him, viz., of approval of the gentlemen (Messrs. Bushe and Burke) recommended for promotion.

I am, &c.

The Secretary, Treasury.

(signed) M. F. Hicks Beach.

* This refers to a printed statement which it is believed has been generally circulated on behalf of Mr. Pigot, junr.

WRIT OFFICE (IRELAND).

CORRESPONDENCE with regard to the
Appointment to Vacancies in the Queen's
Barristers Writ Office in Ireland, since October
1874.

(Mr. Cogan.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
on February 1877.

51.

Under 1 oz.